

Considerable time was devoted to a discussion of the merits of the public building programs in Los Angeles, as now proposed, the majority of the members apparently agreeing on the suitability of the existing buildings in their present locations as a nucleus for the Civic Center.

The activity of the local art groups in procuring an art center building for Los Angeles was related by Paul Robinson Hunter. A grant to help finance such a structure will be requested of the Public Works Administration.

## BOOK REVIEWS

**THE BIG FOUR:** By Oscar Lewis; Alfred A. Knopf, New York; Price: \$4.50.

It is not often that a nation-wide best seller comes to the book review desk of a technical publication. There are exceptions to the rule, however, and this is one of them.

The engineering features and the stupendous problems that faced the builders of the trans-continental railroad give "The Big Four" a definite place on the review pages of every publication, especially if published in California, because the history of the railroad and its builders is the history of California.

Written clearly, concisely and with great frankness, showing the results of intense research, this book is liberally illustrated.

The author of "The Big Four" is a native Californian, a man to whom should go every credit for giving us one of the very worthwhile books of the year. The first and oldest architectural publication of the West is delighted to include this word of praise of Oscar Lewis in its review pages.

**AIR CONDITIONING:** By Charles A. Fuller; The Norman W. Henley Co., 2 West 45th Street, New York City, N. Y.; Price: \$4.00.

A brand new book on one of the most important subjects in the building industry of America today. Written by a foremost authority, an engineer who has devoted his professional life to his subject, the book contains much that the professional man will find worthwhile, particularly with reference to air conditioning problems.

**NINE CHAINS TO THE MOON:** By R. Buckminster Fuller; J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia, Pa.; Price: \$4.00.

This book has much in it of interest to the professional man and is calculated to arouse some curiosity and, no doubt, provoke not a little controversy. The architect will find something here that will probably cause him to wonder, but the answers are there if he will accept them.

"Nine Chains to the Moon" might well be termed a "streamlined" philosophy of modern thought with building playing a considerable part of this thought.

## NEW PLYWOOD FINISHES

Two new products that extend the usefulness of plywood as a building material, have just lately been introduced by I. F. Laucks, Inc., glue and paint manufacturers, Portland Oregon, and whose long and intimate association with the plywood industry has placed them in a most advantageous position for the development of such products.

These two products are known to the trade as Rezitex (for exteriors) and Plasterez (for interiors).

Both are synthetic resin bound paste paints, thinned with mineral spirits and both offer the unique advantage to plywood construction of being fire-resistant. Certified tests with both Rezitex and Plasterez prove these new paints withstand a 1½ hour fire . . . also standard laboratory tests of 180 degrees F. over open Bunsen burner flame for five minutes.

Rezitex may be applied on exterior plywood that is certified by the manufacturer for outside use. It does not impart waterproofing of waterproofing qualities to ordinary plywood, although it does give a heavy, durable, protective coating to the plywood surface.

Both paints are heavy bodied wall coatings which cover minor imperfections, joints, etc. in the plywood surface, and which provide a surface which may, if desired, be stippled or textured to simulate conventional plaster, stucco, or concrete walls. The plywood for either interior or exterior applications must first be sealed, at the mill (Rezitized-at-mill) or on the job with clear synthetic resin sealer.

The materials cover from 150 to 300 square feet, depending upon the surface and the depth of the texture desired, if any. Both paints are supplied in white only, but may be tinted with colors in oil or the surface decorated with synthetic resin bound paints or standard finishing materials.

For the new dry-built type houses where plywood is considered the best of all materials, these new products with their beauty, durability and fire-resistance are considered ideal.

While originally developed for application to fir plywood, it has been proven that these paints are suited to application on interior or exterior stuccos, plaster, plasterboards, cement, brick, etc., especially where resurfacing seems to be needed.


## CHESTER COLE, ARCHITECT

Chester E. Cole, 55, architect of Chico, California, died suddenly at his ranch in Butte County, August 10.

Mr. Cole spent thirty-two years in Chico and was a member of the architectural firm of Cole & Brouchoud. Many of the more prominent buildings in Chico, including the State College, were designed by Mr. Cole and associate.

Mr. Cole leaves a widow and three sons, Phillip, John and James Cole, all of Chico; a brother, Ernest Cole of Culver City, and a sister, Mrs. Oscar Blake of Santa Ana.

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